

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 2704**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Leslie**

February 24, 2006

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An act to add Article 7.7 (commencing with Section 12082) to Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, relating to state government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2704, as introduced, Leslie. State government: Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

Existing law requires the Governor to supervise the official conduct of all executive and ministerial officers. Existing federal regulations make faith-based organizations eligible for specified federal grants.

This bill would establish the office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives within the Office of the Governor and would require the office to serve as a clearinghouse of information on federal, state, and local funding for charitable services performed by charitable organizations, as defined, encourage those organizations to seek public funding for their charitable services, act as a liaison between state agencies and those organizations, and advise the Governor, Legislature, and the advisory board of the office on the barriers to collaboration between those organizations and governmental entities and on ways to remove the barriers. The bill would create the Advisory Board of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives, to be appointed as specified, and require it to provide direction, guidance, and oversight to the office and publish a report of its activities on or before the first day of August of each year.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

SECTION 1. Article 7.7 (commencing with Section 12082) is added to Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code, to read:

Article 7.7. Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

12082. As used in this article, “organization” means a faith-based or other organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and provides charitable services to needy residents of this state.

12082.5. (a) There is hereby established within the office of the Governor the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. The office shall do all of the following:

(1) Serve as a clearinghouse of information on federal, state, and local funding for charitable services performed by organizations.

(2) Encourage organizations to seek public funding for their charitable services.

(3) Act as a liaison between state agencies and organizations.

(4) Advise the Governor, Legislature, and Advisory Board of the Office of Faith-Based Community Initiatives on the existing barriers to collaboration between organizations and governmental entities and on ways to remove those barriers.

(b) The Governor shall appoint an executive assistant to manage the office and perform or oversee the performance of the duties of the office.

12083. (a) There is hereby created the Advisory Board of the Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. The board shall consist of members appointed as follows:

(1) The Director of the Department of Aging, the Director of Alcohol and Drug Programs, the Director of Health Services, the Director of Mental Health, the Director of the Youth Authority, the Director of Employment Development, and the Secretary of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation shall each appoint to the board one employee of that director’s department.

(2) The Speaker of the Assembly shall appoint to the board two Members of the Assembly, not more than one of whom shall

1 be from the same political party. The President pro Tempore of  
2 the Senate shall appoint to the board two Members of the Senate,  
3 not more than one of whom shall be from the same political  
4 party.

5 (3) The Governor, the Speaker of the Assembly, and the  
6 President pro Tempore of the Senate shall each appoint to the  
7 board three representatives for the nonprofit faith-based, and  
8 other nonprofit community.

9 (b) The appointments to the board shall be made by February  
10 1, 2007. Terms of the office shall be one year. Any vacancy that  
11 occurs on the board shall be filled in the same manner as the  
12 original appointment. The members of the board shall serve  
13 without compensation.

14 (c) At its initial meeting, the board shall elect a chairperson.

15 (d) The board shall do both of the following:

16 (1) Provide direction, guidance, and oversight to the office.

17 (2) Publish a report of its activities on or before the first day of  
18 August of each year, and deliver copies of the report to the  
19 Governor, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the Assembly, and  
20 the President pro Tempore and Minority Leader of the Senate.